



50 WERE PROBABLY KILLED

Frightful Explosion in a Shaft at Red Canon, Wyoming.

FIFTEEN BODIES RECOVERED

Between Twenty-five and Fifty Men Were in the Mine When the Catastrophe Occurred--None of These, It Is Thought, Can Have Survived--Four of the Bodies Brought Out Were So Badly Burned as to Be Unrecognizable--One Man Killed by Flying Timbers--Impossible at the Present Time to Estimate the Extent of the Disaster--Details Not Obtainable.

Evansville, Wyo., March 20.--At 5:40 this evening an explosion of gas occurred in the Rocky Mountain Coal and Iron Company's mine No. 5, at Red Canon, several miles from here, with terrible results. James B. Bruce, mine foreman and ex-county commissioner of Uintah county, was instantly killed by flying timbers, and also were four others. As found the others are:

WILLIAM SELLERS, JR., rope-runner.
J. CLARK.
EDWARD COACH, head carpenter.
The other man has not been identified. All were killed by flying timbers.
FIFTY MEN IN THE MINE.
From twenty-five to fifty men were in the mine at the time of the explosion. At this writing they have not been rescued, and are certainly dead.
O. B. Maltby, Andrew Marion, and J. Crawford are badly injured, but may recover. About 150 men are employed in this mine, and most of them had gone out.

Among those in the mine thought to be dead are:
William Brown.
John Fern.
Samuel Thomas and son.
Old Mr. Burton.
Samuel Hutchinson.
William Sayre and son.
BLOWN TO ATOMS.
The covering of the shaft and buildings at the mouth were blown to atoms. The mine was considered one of the safest in the State.
O. B. Maltby, superintendent of the motive power, has since died; also Jerry Crawford.
Eight men have been brought out of the mine so burned as to be past identification, with the exception of one, John Lamb.
All hope of rescuing anybody alive has been given up.
The death toll now numbers fifteen.

STRUCK OIL IN THE CELLAR

Workmen Discovered the Fluid Bubbling from the Earth.

MYSTERY OF AN EXCAVATION

Gallons of Golden Oil Filled a Hole Made by Men Digging a Cellar at the Corner of Fourteenth and T Streets Northwest--It Startled the Laborers and Excited the Neighborhood--Character of the Find.



Where Workmen Struck Oil.

Workmen struck oil yesterday in the northwestern part of the city, but whether it is a genuine well, capable of producing floods of the illuminating fluid, or whether some practical joker has perpetrated a clever hoax, will be a question that is likely to prove perplexing for several days.

At any rate, workmen in digging a cellar for a new building to be erected on the lot of ground at No. 1988 Fourteenth street northwest, unearthed an old well of water that had been abandoned and filled up for twenty years, and building up out of the ground came streams of oil that soon separated itself from the water into which it was mixed.

The discovery caused the greatest astonishment and surprise, and gallons of the fluid were scooped up. When put into vessels and lighted, the oil burned with a clear, strong and steady white light. To the small, it was like ordinary oil, but in color it was golden, quite unlike the ordinary kerosene oil, and heavier in body. Darkness prevented a further examination of the mystery after the well had been dug out about a foot, and the problem was given up until to-day.

OCCUPIED FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS.
Cook Bros., a grocery firm on Fourteenth street, next to the corner of T, are having the cellar excavated for the purpose of putting in a new building and store. They own the ground and occupied it for eighteen years, and John C. Cook, one of the firm, declared last night that he knew of no way how the oil could have gotten into the old well.

"When the cry was made that oil had been found the spot was quickly surrounded by all the men, and there was of course intense excitement. As we dug down deeper into the hole, we found the oil bubbling out more copiously, and we found it would burn freely, and, although we took a considerable quantity out, more took its place."

The approach of darkness prevented a closer examination of the mystery and it was given up until daylight. Marshal Shea has charge of the excavation and he was equally surprised.

MAKES A SMART FIRE.
The workmen had a fire burning in a part of the cellar and they soaked pieces of wood and old bugging in the oil and threw them into the fire to make a smarter and hotter blaze. It was decided to dig out the rest of the well and see if the oil would still gush forth the first thing in the morning.

Mr. Cook expressed his wonderment at the incident and said he knew of no possible way for the oil to have found its way into the present mine place. He said that he would have an expert examine the find to discover the true nature of the inexplicable discovery.

Years ago a colored woman named Mrs. Bell occupied the land from the corner of T street to the lot where the oil well was found, and it was sold for 7 cents a foot. Eventually it passed into the possession of the Cook family. Eighteen years ago the Cook brothers started a grocery store on the lot where the oil well was, and a few years ago moved into the one-story store just adjoining. One of the first things the oil did, said Mr. Cook last night, was to fill up the old brick-walled well, where the oil now lies. It was then partially filled, but the work was soon completed for precautionary purposes.

TWO INCHES OF OIL.
The existence of the well was forgotten until it was brought to light again yesterday afternoon in such a peculiar manner. Only one side of the cavity is exposed with its old brick walls, and about two inches of oil rested on the surface last night when Mr. Cook reached down and filled a bottle of the fluid for the reporter. Beneath the covering of oil, water to the depth of several inches was found. Many explanations of the phenomenon were put forth last night. Some expressed the opinion that a barrel of oil had somehow leaked into the old well, and had been prevented from sinking into the ground by the underlying stratum of water, while others thought it quite possible that a real oil spring had been brought to light. At any rate the discovery will be a matter of interest and speculation until the truth shall be known.

STREWN WITH WRECKAGE

All Along Conil's Coast Are Evidences of Ill-fated Reina Regente.

Commander Fernald Says the Cruiser Was About the Most Top-heavy Ship He Ever Saw.

Madrid, March 20.--There no longer seems to be any doubt that the story of the wreck of the Spanish cruiser Reina Regente is true.

The Coast of Conil, north of Cape Trafalgar, where the cruiser foundered, according to the report of the commander of the Alfonso XII, is strewn with wreckage belonging to the Reina Regente and with officers' uniforms, flags, etc., showing beyond any reasonable doubt that the warship is lost.

The authorities will not allow people near the Coast of Conil, fearing painful scenes when the bodies of the drowned sailors are recovered.

New York, March 20.--Commander Frank T. Fernald, stationed at the Brooklyn navy yard as chief of construction, said to-day: "Just after the Columbian naval celebration the Reina Regente was in our large dry dock in the navy yard here, and I had a good chance to study her points. "She was about the most top-heavy ship I ever saw. Her officers informed me that she had 460 tons of water ballast in her double bottoms to keep her from rolling overboard. Her heavy battery was mounted too high.

She was a splendid example of what a naval constructor should avoid. When we took her out of the dry dock here I was in deadly fear she would topple over."

Old Guard Accuses the Invitation.
At a meeting of the Old Guard held at its headquarters Tuesday night it was ordered that the invitation to attend the next national encampment of the G. A. R., at Louisville, Ky., be accepted, and that the matter of transportation and arrangements for music be referred to the executive committee. A vote of thanks to the National Riders was adopted for courtesies rendered February 22. Joseph H. Burrows and F. A. Flanagan were elected active members of the organization, and two applications were referred to the recruiting committee. At the close of the meeting the Mount Pleasant Cornet, Drum, and Bugle Corps marched in and rendered some excellent music.

He Concluded to Pay the Fine.
Edward Fick, who keeps a saloon on Tenth street, was arrested by Policemen Browne and Warren, sometime ago, charged with selling liquor on Sunday, and was given a jury trial before Judge Miller yesterday. He was guilty and counsel gave notice of a motion for a new trial, but Fick afterward paid a fine of \$50 and was released.

Invited the President.
Mr. Andrew V. V. Raymond, the president of Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., called on President Cleveland at the White House yesterday and invited him to attend the commencement exercises of that institution, which are to be held on June 27. He subsequently visited Secretaries Lamont and Morton, who are alumni of the college, and extended similar courtesies to them.

Quinn Was in Bad Company.
Timothy Quinn has reported to the police of the First precinct that his gold hunting case watch, gold chain and horse-shoe charm were stolen from him between 12 and 2 o'clock yesterday morning. He thinks the theft was committed by the inmates of house No. 404 Thirtieth street northwest.

Carrier Bond Released on Bond.
Letter Carrier Charles D. Bond, charged with rifling the mails, and who was caught by postal inspectors by means of decoy letters, has been released from custody on \$1,000 bail, furnished by his father. Bond is a brother-in-law of ex-Assistant Postmaster General Hazen.

Demanding Trial by Jury.
Annie Fitzgerald and Lucy Clark, both colored, charged with keeping an immoral house, demanded a jury trial in Judge Kimball's court yesterday.

\$1.25. To Baltimore and Return \$1.25.
The Pennsylvania Railroad will sell March 23d and 24th, good returning until 25th, excursion tickets to Baltimore, at the rate of \$1.25.

Notorious Woman Fined \$150.
Ida Drury was before Judge Miller yesterday to answer the charge of disorderly conduct and assault. Several young white women, inmates of her house, who had been summoned by the court as witnesses, were present. A fine of \$150 and costs was imposed.

SLAUGHTERED IN BATCHES

Unarmed Armenians Butchered by Turks Every Night.

WORST ACCOUNTS CONFIRMED

Immense Treasures Were Dug and Into These the Soldiers for a Whole Week Bayoneted and Sabred the Helpless Inhabitants--One of the Butchers Tells How He Himself Killed Seven People.

London, March 21.--The correspondent in Armenia, of the Daily News, sends to that paper a story told by a Turkish soldier who took part in the Sassoun outrages, and who has since quitted the army and fled across the Russian border. His story confirms the worst accounts of the outrages.

He tells how the Turks sent the Kurds to do the rough work of burning the Armenian villages and murdering the inhabitants. It was Turks, he added, who cut off the fugitives as they were trying to escape.

Describing the outrages in the village of Djeli Gozan, the scene of the "pit massacre," the Turk says that two immense treasuries were dug and the soldiers were told off into parties to butcher the inhabitants.

For over a week one party or another was marched at night to the treasuries, where the soldiers were ordered to bayonet and butcher batches of unarmed, helpless Armenians.

The Turk remorsefully admits that he killed seven persons, but says he would have been killed himself had he disobeyed the order of his superior officer.

In an editorial comment on the foregoing dispatch the Daily News says that the ordinary calculations of diplomacy can have no place in the deliberations of the powers in this crisis of the fate of Armenia.

CARRIE JUMPED THE FENCE.

She Intended to Become a Nun, But Got Frightened.
Lafayette, Ind., March 20.--Miss Carrie Pollard, of Memphis, Tenn., the daughter of an artist, came here Monday for the purpose of entering the Catholic St. Elizabeth Hospital and becoming a nun.

Miss Pollard says she is a Protestant and was influenced to take the step by Catholic friends. She was greeted by a sister, who accompanied her to the institution and helped her with the necessary garb of a sister.

A room was given her, in which was a bed shaped like a tomb, and she was told to take of only things divine, Miss Pollard claims to have been so frightened that she determined to escape, and this she did yesterday while walking with a sister in the grounds of the hospital.

She jumped the fence and sent word to Attorney Wood, who went to the hospital and secured the lady's clothing.

The sister superior denies the correctness of Miss Pollard's story, and says that she attempted to restrain her from scaling the fence, so as to prevent a scene.

DIAMONDS FOR THE COACHMAN.

Conservator Appointed for Mrs. Johnson. But She Skipped With the Cash.

SAW LOUIS MEET DEATH

Mr. and Mrs. Backschiid Witnessed Their Son's Accident.

His Parents Were at the Front Window with the Youngest Child and Watching Louis at Play Across the Street--He Started Toward Home, but Was Run Over and Quickly Died--Pathetic Scene at the House.

Eleven Persons Killed and Not a Trace of Them to Be Found--Property in Distant Villages Wrecked.

Coloquio, March 20.--A terrible explosion of dynamite took place yesterday evening at Salmuth, in the district of Bussendorf. The cargo of the ship Elizabeth, consisting of 20,000 kilos of dynamite, was being unloaded when the explosion occurred, killing a number of people and doing a terrible amount of damage.

The exact number of persons killed is not known.

Another vessel, which was alongside the Elizabeth, caught fire and was burned. The explosion was felt for miles, and was at first believed to have been the result of an earthquake. Several houses collapsed at Keeken and other villages, and windows were shattered over a wide area.

At eleven o'clock, five miles from the scene of the explosion, doors were torn off and window frames were smashed.

The bodies of five victims of the explosion have already been recovered, and six persons, believed to have been killed, are still missing.

Three of the explosion was so great that three vessels at Lobitz, the last Dutch village on the Rhine, were sunk. It has been ascertained that the Elizabeth was taken to Lobitz in Salmuth last January, on order to Antwerp, whence it was to have been shipped to Australia. Owing to the ice blockade in the river the dynamite was landed at Salmuth, where it was stored awaiting the reopening of navigation.

In the meantime the Elizabeth had been chartered to take the dynamite forward and the cargo was being stored yesterday when part of it exploded. The cause of the explosion is unknown, as every person on board the Elizabeth was killed.

Mrs. Lillian Wise Wants a Divorce.
Lillian Wise says she has frequently been obliged to sit up all night to prevent her husband, John R. Wise, from killing her. She yesterday filed a bill asking for a divorce, custody of their children, \$100 attorney fee, and \$5 a week alimony while the suit continues. She also wants a restraining order to prevent Mr. Wise from interfering with her. At the time of the filing of the case she hopes to receive, in addition to the divorce, \$200 attorney fee, \$1,000 alimony, suit money, and costs. They were married August 9, 1887, by the Rev. Dr. Corbin at the minister's house. They have two children living.

Fined for Stealing Milk.

Harry Betweller, Charles Kieny and Edgar Toten, boys from 12 to 16 years of age, allowed their fondness for milk to overcome their fear of the law yesterday morning, and it appears that they stole a good-sized can of milk from Charles Graff, of Third and E streets northwest, and took it in an alley, where they drank the milk and threw the can away. Betweller and Kieny were fined \$1 each by Judge Miller and Toten was dismissed.

The boys were arrested by Policemen Cox and Mulvey.

SAW LOUIS MEET DEATH

Mr. and Mrs. Backschiid Witnessed Their Son's Accident.

UNDER THE WAGON WHEELS

His Parents Were at the Front Window with the Youngest Child and Watching Louis at Play Across the Street--He Started Toward Home, but Was Run Over and Quickly Died--Pathetic Scene at the House.



Louis Backschiid.

Almost in an instant, and before the eyes of his parents, the life of little Louis Backschiid, the six-year-old son of Paul Backschiid, of No. 754 Thirtieth street northwest, was crushed out yesterday afternoon by one of the heavy wagons of M. W. Beveridge, of No. 1214 G street.

Louis left the house about 2:30 o'clock and was playing across the street in front of the Builders' Exchange building. His father and mother were at the second-story window playing with their youngest child, a baby, and watching Louis.

The little fellow started across the street, and the next instant the distracted father saw his boy under the wagon wheels.

He started to rush out, but already gentle hands had picked the injured lad up and were bringing him into the house. He was laid on the floor of the front room down stairs, which is used as a workshop, but when his father entered he got up and started toward him. His father caught him up in his arms and carried him to bed.

Physicians had been sent for at once, and Drs. Stoutenberg and Selhausen reached the house a few minutes after the accident and made an examination of the injuries. There were no marks on the body, but the physicians decided that he was injured internally.

HE KNEW HIS FATHER.
He was conscious up to the last moment and knew every one of the family in the room. Just before he breathed his last his father approached the bed and, leaning over, said:

"Louis, darling, do you know papa?"
"Yes, sir, I know you," replied the feeble little voice, and the tiny flame of life went out.

The little fellow was six years and five months and was phenomenal for his brightness. He was the pet of the entire family, and none of them can approach the little boy lying so white and peaceful on his bed without breaking down. His mother has been unconscious since the accident and grave fears are entertained for her life. The father is almost distracted.

Miss Christine Pogrebenec, an aunt of the dead boy, said last night that the family thought the affair an accident and rather sympathized with the colored driver than felt bitter against him. They did not think he could have prevented it in any way.

Mr. M. W. Beveridge, the owner of the team, came around yesterday afternoon to inquire into the circumstances of the affair. He said that Mr. Backschiid had gone to the station-house to see the driver and to have him released if possible.

DEBATE RESULTS IN A ROW

Defeated Students of Columbian University Burn with Indignation.

Georgetown Lads Adopt Resolutions Scoring Their Defeated Rivals and Refusing to Debate Again with Them.

A pretty row has grown out of the debate Monday night between the Georgetown College and Columbian law schools. Each school was represented by three picked disputants.

The Columbian boys are in high dudgeon at what they assert was a decision not in accordance with the law and the facts, and the Georgetown lads have taken a stand upon their dignity at what is claimed to be wholly unwarranted criticism of the judges of the debate and of the correctness of the decision.

The Columbian faculty has become involved by implication at least. Meantime all Washington is interested. A result will be a discontinuance of the inter-collegiate contests.

After three successive defeats the Columbian students felt sure they had won, so pleased were they with the showing made by their debaters. They even thought their rivals from beyond Rock Creek were ready to admit it, and were in a state of exultant expectation when the decision was at last made.

Their defeat came like thunder in sunshine. They were at first dazed, then indignant. When they had slept upon it again became thoughtful again Tuesday morning they became more indignant.

They held an indignation meeting Tuesday night and gathered a number of their faculty with them. The faculty went far enough to gain their hearty approbation. It was agreed that the Columbian representatives had made the best argument of the evening, and that they would take in deciding to the contrary. Some of the speeches called the decision unfair, illogical, unjust.

The members of the faculty participating were Treasurer R. H. Martin, Prof. A. P. Montague, dean of the college; Prof. Charles E. Monroe, dean of Columbian; Charles Schodt, Prof. D. K. Shute, dean of the medical school, and Dr. J. Howard Gore, Secretary of the faculty.

When Georgetown college heard of this meeting it was decided some response must be made.

The debating society met last night, and the members of the society of defeated rivals, adopted resolutions repudiating the charges and insinuations "made against the board of judges, selected by the joint action of both schools, and in whose integrity and impartiality it has full confidence; and that, in view of the unwarranted and uncalled for action of both schools, this society hereby declares its absolute refusal to enter into any further contests with the Debating Society of Columbian University."

Prof. Munson, of Columbian, when told last night of the action of the Georgetown society, said he thought they should have had an accurate report of what was said at the Tuesday evening meeting before passing resolutions.

Two Accidents at West Washington.

West Washington furnished the Emergency Hospital with two pretty severe accident cases yesterday, and by a strange coincidence both occurred at 9 o'clock a. m.

The first victim was Allen Tyler, a colored laborer, who had his head laid open and his back severely injured by a falling bucket while he was at work in an excavation at Thirtieth street and Prospect avenue. The second accident happened to Daniel Chambers, a middle-aged colored man, who had three of his fingers nearly severed by a buzz saw while at work in Scholtz's saw mill on K street, between Thirtieth and Thirtieth-first streets.

King Demanded a Jury Trial.
Richard H. King, alias Harry Proctor, arrested by Private Detective Burdett at the R. & O. depot and turned over to Detectives Hamilton and Rhodes, appeared before Judge Miller yesterday and demanded a jury trial. His case was continued and he was sent down.

George Paid the Fine.
George Lewis, the boy messenger for Craig & Harding, charged with robbing the firm of various articles, plead guilty before Judge Miller yesterday. There were three cases against him and he was fined \$20 in each case. He paid the fines.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.
Fair; continued cold; south winds.

BEAM IS DECLARED SANE

Expert Chapin Believes That the Murderer Is Responsible.

END OF THE TRIAL AT HAND

Taking of Testimony Concluded and the Case Will Probably Go to the Jury To-day. Witnesses Testified That the Defendant Is Frightened, Hot Tempered, a Drinker, But a Good Workman and Not Irresponsible.

The sanity of Joseph A. Beam, arraigned for the murder of his stepdaughter, Mrs. Leahy, in December last, was the subject of the evidence given in the case before Judge Cole yesterday. The taking of testimony was concluded. Prayers will be submitted at 10 o'clock this morning, and arguments will be made.

It is understood that two and a half to three hours will be allowed each side. Mr. Jeffords will speak first for the government and Mr. Birney will close. For the defense Mr. Duffy will probably open the argument and Mr. Trout close.

Dr. John P. Chapin, of Philadelphia, an expert in cases of the mind, was the last witness. He was called by the government in rebuttal. After listening to the testimony of the witnesses for the defense who testified to Beam's alleged insane acts, and to the contrary evidence offered by the government, and after an examination of Beam at the jail yesterday, Dr. Chapin testified that the defendant is sane, and at the time of the killing was not so badly off with passion that he did not know right from wrong.

SCIENTIFIC SIDE OF THE CASE.
He explained at length the grounds upon which he based his opinion, and gave the scientific aspect of Beam's condition. Dr. Chapin is the expert who testified for the government in the Schaeffer murder trial. Policeman C. J. Wagner said that Beam had several times been arrested for assault and threats, and was addicted to drink. Beam talked freely at the time of the murder. Messrs. J. W. Walters and James Woodward, guards at the jail, said that Beam eats and sleeps well, and on Tuesday night talked rationally of his trial.

Dr. D. W. Shute, the jail physician, said Beam was in good health and not subject to hallucinations so far as he could learn. Beam declined to talk to him about the trial, under the advice of counsel.

He talked, however, with Dr. Chapin. Station-keeper Beahm said he had been talked with Beam soon after the killing of Mrs. Leahy, and he explained that he had not prepared to kill the woman, but shot her on the impulse of the moment. He was wild with anger at being denied the privilege of seeing his wife.

MAN OF VIOLENT TEMPER.
Police Sgt. E. J. Wall and Policeman M. G. Flynn, Frank P. Smith Henry Ehlers and Henry T. Fisher gave testimony, much alike, of Beam's spells, and Mr. Smith said Beam had been convicted of assault upon his step-daughter. They considered the defendant a man of violent temper, but not insane.

F. W. Pilling, the builder, said Beam was peevish, but a good workman and not insane.

Additional testimony for the defense given yesterday was that Beam was dangerous, and the witnesses, most of whom at one time or another, had worked with him, were always on the lookout to prevent his doing them some mischief. They considered him a man of violent temper, but not insane.

M. L. Thompson said Beam used to make imaginary measurements of trees, and would frequently set in the woods for hours at a time.